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EX PARTE

Electronic Filing via ECFS

January 28, 2011

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *In the Matters of Developing a Unified Inter-carrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket 01-92; *High-Cost Universal Service*, WC Docket 05-337; *Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers*, WC Docket No. 07-135; *Connect American Fund*, WC Docket 10-90; *National Broadband Plan for Our Future*, GN Docket 09-51

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 28, 2011, Melissa Newman of Qwest spoke via telephone, in separate conversations, with Brad Gillen, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Meredith Baker, and with Margaret McCarthy, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael Copps, to discuss the inter-carrier compensation and universal service reform Notice of Proposed Rulemaking scheduled to be addressed at the Open Meeting on February 8, 2011.

Qwest has been supportive of reform. Qwest urged the Commission to clarify that IP-originated traffic terminating on the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) should be subject to the existing access charge regime until the Commission makes a final determination regarding such traffic in the context of overall inter-carrier compensation and universal service reform.

Qwest also urged the FCC to move directly to the Connect America Fund where existing access replacement could be tied to new broadband deployment, consistent with the National Broadband Plan.

This ex parte is being filed electronically pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.49(f) and 1.1206(b). Please contact me at 202.429.3120 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa E. Newman

Copy via email to:
Brad Gillen
Margaret McCarthy